

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KINSHA 05111 211033Z

ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00

SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 OPR-02 A-01 PC-01 AID-05

IO-13 HA-05 CA-01 SCS-06 /094 W

-----072092 211036Z /14

O 211005Z MAY 78

FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 9865

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL LUBUMBASHI IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L KINSHASA 5111

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MOPS, PINS, CG

SUBJECT: SHABA ATTACK: MILITARY SITREP 0930 MAY 21, 1978

1. FOLLOWING INFORMATION BASED ON REPORTS RECEIVED FROM BOTH BELGIAN AND FRENCH REPS. AT MILITARY HEADQUARTERS IN KINSHASA: AS OF 2348Z MAY 20 BRITISH HAD PUT AT THE DISPOSAL OF BELGIANS AT KAMINA, FOUR AIRCRAFT FOR EVACUATION PURPOSES, ONE DC-10 AND THREE C-130S.

2. AT 0003Z MAY 20 KAMINA WAS REPORTED EMPTY OF EVACUEE REFUGEES.

3. BELGIANS HAD BEGUN AGAIN THE PROCESS OF EVACUATING PEOPLE FROM KOLWEZI AT 0630Z MAY 21.

4. BASED ON INFORMATION RECEIVED AT 0730Z 21 MAY, THERE WERE 200 ENEMY ESTIMATED AT CITE METALSHABA (EMBASSY COMMENT: THIS MAY BE SAME SITE AS METALKAT). THERE WAS HEAVY ACTION BY FRENCH FORCES WITH MIRAGE SUPPORT AND HEAVY GROUND FIGHTING.
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AS OF 1500Z MAY 20 FRENCH FORCES CASUALTIES STOOD AT ONE KILLED, THREE WOUNDED AND TWO MISSING. THERE HAVE BEEN ESTIMATED 100 ENEMY KILLED, WITH REMAINING 100 DEPARTING IN TRUCKS WESTWARD AT 1500 MAY 20. FRENCH WERE NOT IN PURSUIT BECAUSE NO VEHICLES WERE AVAILABLE.

5. BELGIAN MISSION MEMBERS HERE IN KINSHASA WHO HAVE TAKEN

EVACUEES INTO THEIR HOMES REPORT THAT SITUATION IN KOLWEZI
"IS NOT PRETTY." EVACUEES REPORT SEEING STACKS OF EUROPEAN
BODIES, AND IN THEIR OPINION, BODY COUNT PROBABLY WILL GO
MUCH HIGHER THAN 40 TO 60 WHICH WERE REPORTED EARLIER.
CUTLER

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Concepts: SITREP, COMBAT OPERATIONS
Control Number: n/a
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Draft Date: 21 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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